

privacy while performing their duties in public. As a result of my view, I do not believe that prosecuting citizens for exercising a constitutionally protected right is a proper use of the justice system.

I ask for your support of H. Con. Res. 298 to bring awareness to this startling abuse of power and waste of taxpayer dollars.

DELAYING EPA FISHING BOAT DISCHARGE RULES

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 5301. H.R. 5301, proposed by my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. LOBIONDO, consists of two titles.

Title I of H.R. 5301 is an extension of an already existing moratorium. The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure recently passed this bill out of Committee with no amendments and no objections. This extension is necessary because the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, recently completed a study that indicates that discharges from vessels under 79 feet in length are not benign. However, the EPA needs additional time to set appropriate Clean Water Act requirements to protect the nation's waters from these types of discharges.

This legislation would extend the current moratorium until December 18, 2013, giving EPA the opportunity to include these vessels in the next round of permitting under the EPA Vessel General Permit.

I would like to point out to my colleagues that this Chamber has already passed this same language earlier this Congress, in H.R. 3619, the "Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010."

The second title of this legislation is the "Clean Estuaries Act of 2010," which reauthorizes the National Estuary Program. This Chamber successfully passed this legislation 278–128 in April of this year, with support from both sides of the aisle.

Estuaries are unique environments that are extremely productive in terms of their ecosystem values. The ecological productivity of estuaries translates directly into important economic output in terms of commercial fishing and recreational fishing.

The Clean Estuaries Act of 2010 will give these regions the resources and means to effectively manage watersheds and protect estuaries. At the same time, the legislation does an excellent job of including all levels of government and all types of stakeholders.

This legislation increases the authorization for appropriations; allows for increased and improved federal coordination; increases accountability; and, includes some necessary programmatic changes.

The National Estuary Program needs an increase in authorized appropriation levels in order to provide more resources to on-the-ground stakeholders and to enable more communities and estuaries to join the Program.

I ask all members of this Chamber to once again join me in supporting communities and estuaries through the passage of this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, on the evening of Tuesday, July 20, 2010, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 451 through 453.

Had I been present for rollcall 451, on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1491, Congratulating the University of South Carolina Gamecocks on winning the 2010 NCAA Division I College World Series, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 452, on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 5604, the Surface Transportation Savings Act of 2010, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 453, on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1516, Recognizing the 65th Anniversary of the end of World War II, honoring the service members who fought in World War II and their families, and honoring the servicemembers who are currently serving in combat operations, I would have voted "Aye."

IN HONOR OF U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST ROGER LEE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to mourn the loss of a soldier constituent, U.S. Army Specialist Roger Lee, 26, of Monterey, California. He was a brave soldier who fought valiantly for our freedom. More importantly, he was a proud father, a loyal husband, a caring brother, and a devoted son.

Roger Lee was born and raised in Monterey, California. He came from a loving family that followed the American Dream by starting a family-owned business on California's Central Coast. Roger graduated from Monterey High School and later went to the Arizona Automotive Institute in Glendale, Arizona where he met his wife, Elvina Lee.

In 2005, Roger and Elvina Lee celebrated the birth of their daughter Jazmyne Lee. Shortly after, in 2007, Roger made the decision to enlist in the United States Army, both to fulfill his lifelong goal of serving our country and to build a better life for his wife and daughter. Specialist Lee served in United States Army 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment based in Hohenfies, Germany.

On July 6, 2010, insurgents attacked Specialist Lee's vehicle near Qalat, Afghanistan, with an improvised explosive device. He ultimately perished from the wounds inflicted by that attack. For his actions and service to our country, Roger was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

Madam Speaker, I know that I speak for the whole House in offering our deepest sympathies to Specialist Lee's family and friends. Our nation extends its deepest gratitude for Specialist Lee's service to the United States of America.

HONORING THE WORK OF DR. CHRISTOPH THOMAS OF OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Christoph Thomas, one of my constituents and an Oregon State University atmospheric scientist who has received a National Science Foundation "Career Award" which is designed to support emerging influential scholars and educators who will become 21st century leaders.

During the next five years, Dr. Thomas will be receiving funding from the NSF to support his research on the relationship between plant canopies—such as forests and crops—and the lower atmosphere. The air exchange between these environments plays an important role in the transport of heat, moisture, momentum and trace gases, but they are poorly understood. Dr. Thomas will work with graduate students at Oregon State University, an Oregon K–12 high school teacher, and several colleagues on the studies. The project will include a teaching component, site visits by science classes, and a new graduate-level field course for students in atmospheric sciences, forestry, engineering and agricultural sciences.

Madam Speaker, this research will create better models of air transport that will lead to better large-scale weather and climate models, reducing uncertainty in projections of carbon and energy budgets while improving the ability to predict water availability in forests. I am proud to represent Dr. Christoph Thomas and Oregon State University and wish Dr. Thomas success as he puts National Science Foundation dollars to work in the coming years.

DEAUTHORIZING PORTION OF POTOMAC RIVER WATER PROJECT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5545. H.R. 5545 would deauthorize one-half of the federal navigation project width of the Potomac River, Washington Channel, District of Columbia.

This change to the width of the navigation channel will enable Washington, DC to better develop and utilize the waterfront near this channel.

To ensure that this action will not affect public safety, Committee staff checked with the Coast Guard, Navy, and Corps of Engineers. None of these agencies oppose the deauthorization of the segment of channel.

I am unaware of any controversy concerning this legislation, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5545.